## **Evaluation of Spoken Words**

Every word that we speak to each other should be evaluated by the hearers. With maturity this is not a deliberate activity but one that is automatic because you are always listening with your spirit.

Speech that is out-of-line must be challenged to bring the speaker back in line. This is normally an oversight task, but every member of a Kingdom Community has the responsibility to evaluate speech and to uphold truth. For example:

**1 Corinthians 14:29** (AMP) – Let two or three prophets speak [as inspired by the Holy Spirit], while the rest pay attention and weigh carefully what is said.

When referring to "the rest", it means <u>everyone</u> who's hearing what's prophesied, not 'leadership' or other prophets.

Correction need not occur in public, but it should be so if the improper speech was presented in public. Alternatively, correction can occur in private, with a public declaration following.

Rectification does not <u>always</u> mean a harrowing chastisement, but sometimes this is necessary when a person is out-of-order. Usually correction is less confronting and should be a discussion around what was said.

Correction usually starts with the person confronting the issue asking simple, polite questions. Example: "What did you mean when you said xxxxxxxx?"; "Do you think your revelatory message was in line with Father's heart?"

There should be correction where necessary for all these:

- Prophecy
- Revelation
- Teaching
- Declaration
- Prayer
- Interpretation of scripture
- General conversation

We are to keep each other on track, whether it concerns sin or it's about error.<sup>1</sup>

It's important to bear in mind that apostolic oversight is essential to maintain sound doctrine and the alignment of the Community with the current mind of God. This is the usual source of much of the correction because of the additional authority they carry with their apostolic mantle.

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